

REMARKS

I. Status of Application

By the present amendment, Applicant amends claims 3-4, 9, 13, 16 and 21. Applicant also hereby cancels claims 25 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-24 and 26-51 are all the claims pending in the Application. Claims 1-51 have been rejected.

The present Amendment addresses each point of objection and rejection raised by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Formalities

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority and for indicating receipt of the certified copies of the Priority Documents.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for returning the initialed PTO/SB/08 forms filed with the Information Disclosure Statements on October 13, 2004 and June 15, 2006, respectively, indicating that the references cited therein have been considered.

However, the Examiner has failed to indicate whether the drawing figures filed on October 13, 2004 have been accepted. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge and approve the aforementioned drawing figures.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-5, 9, 13-17 and 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant has rewritten claims 3-4, 9, 13, 16 and 21 in independent form, as set forth above. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 3-4, 9, 13, 16 and 21 are immediately allowable.

IV. Objections to the Specification

A. Objections to the Abstract

The Examiner has objected to the abstract of the disclosure alleging that it is too lengthy.

Applicant traverses this rejection and submits that the original abstract contained 149 words, which satisfies the requirements of MPEP §608.01(b). Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended the abstract of the disclosure, as set forth above, and respectfully requests that the Examiner approve the newly amended abstract of the disclosure.

B. Objections to the Title

The Examiner has objected to the title alleging that it is not descriptive. Applicant has amended the title, as set forth above, to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

V. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Otomo (6,349,184). Applicant has canceled claim 25 without prejudice or disclaimer and, therefore, the Examiner's rejection with respect to claim 25 is now moot.

VI. Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 10-12, 19, 20 and 22-24 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-5 and 7-9 of copending Application No. 10/514,991.

Without conceding to the Examiner's rejections, Applicant files herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, thereby rendering the rejections moot.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Andrew J. Taska /

Andrew J. Taska
Registration No. 54,666

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 28, 2007